CALPEEK

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CAMPAIGN '98: COMPETITIVE BIDDING INITIATIVE.

Editor's note: For those who may have forgotten, there were two(2) initiatives which just missed making the November '96 ballot. One of the measures facing voters in June of '98 will be the ***Competitive Bidding Initiative***. Here's a first look at what promises to be a very controversial issue...

...The full ballot title is *Design and engineering services, State-funded. Cost analysis. Civil service. Competitive bidding. Contractor responsibility. Initiative constitutional amendment.* The initiative is not as complex as this torturous ballot title, but one has to read it carefully to understand its true meaning...

...The initiative's key backer is Professional Engineers In Calif. Government(state employees). But a coalition known as *Taxpayers for Efficient Govt.*(916)446-0496 is the umbrella organization now pushing for approval of what they call, "The Govt. Cost Savings & Taxpayer Protection Amendment." The coalition has hired consultant Steve Hopcraft to manage the initiative. Why the initiative? Simple: JOBS...

...The key points proponents plan to emphasize are: **1)** there must be competitive bidding for state-funded engineering or design contracts of more than $50,000 (unless there's an emergency situation); **2)** contractors will be held responsible for their work (in other words, contractors must indemnify the state or contracting agency if there is a major mistake or flaw). The initiative names the Controller's office as the agency to prepare, verify and analyze bids...

...The opposition was formed last year in anticipation that Competitive Bidding would qualify. The NO side goes under the umbrella name of *Taxpayers Fed Up With More State Bureaucracy(Fed Up)!* The key coalition members are the CA Chamber; the American Inst. of Architects; and Consulting Engineers & Land Surveyors of CA (CELSAC). The coalition has hired Burlingame-based Woodward & McDowell to manage the NO side...

...Under current law, State and local governments are given the flexibility to contract with private firms ***without*** competitive bids. Private industry fears that if this initiative wins approval, most of these major projects (hospitals, roads, bridges, schools) would be designed by state employees, thus making the State of CA the "largest engineering, surveying & architectural design firm in the world." This is a private sector ***job killer***, opponents say...

...This initiative battle promises to be expensive and very nasty, with each side hurling accusations and construction horror stories at each other. Stay tuned...

PART 2: SHOULD TAX DOLLARS BE USED TO HELP SPORTS FRANCHISES BUILD NEW FACILITIES????

Editor's note: In Part I, **Calpeek** presented an overview of what's happening in Calif. with pro sports franchises and the various cities where these teams currently reside. The focus of this series is about the politics of public funding of sports facilities in order to keep or attract pro sports teams. Here is Part II about public attitudes (polling data)...

...Last week (Jan. 16th), the Sacto BEE's front page story had this headline: ***Kings' owner wants $145 million in aid***. And NBA team owner Jim Thomas wants the city to make a quick decision. To some, it looks like Thomas is holding a gun to the city's head. At their meeting Jan. 21st, the council did not reach a decision and Thomas agreed to a 1 week delay while the council deliberates. Thomas says he can't keep the team in the 17,317-seat Arco Arena unless the city helps him to refinance his debt on the arena, plus put in

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more luxury boxes. In return, he promises to keep the team in Sacto for 20 years. Part of the $145 million would be to help pay for the construction of a huge entertainment complex next door to the arena. What are city officials going to do? Probably go to the voters with a proposal in June...

...Although every city and deal is different, **Calpeek** sources have supplied us with polling data which tends to indicate that selling such a package won't be easy. Why? **1)** city/county budgets are tight and there are higher priorities than sports facilities; **2)** spending even limited tax dollars to aid wealthy sports owners doesn't sit well with lots of voters; **3)** the public is turned off by the outrageous salaries paid to "star" athletes, who in some cases are not good role models. Suggested viewing: Tom Cruise in *Jerry Maguire*...

...***Polling data***: **1)** On the question of building a new arena in downtown L.A. with some public dollars, 15% favor, 78% oppose, 7% no opinion (Oct. '96, 1,000 likely voters, by Pacific Research, paid for by Inglewood business interests). **2)** On the question of building a new football stadium for the S.F. 49ers with some public funds, 65% oppose, 28% are in favor, 7% no opinion (Oct. 12-15, 600 voters, S.F. Chronicle). And **3)** On the question of moving the Seattle Seahawks football team to L.A. only if public funds were used to build a new stadium, 19% favor, 71% oppose, 10% no opinion (Feb. 1996, Godbe Research for The Center for the Study of L.A.)...

...So it's no wonder that the NFL and the political establishment in **San Diego** are nervous about a referendum on its revenue bond deal to remodel Jack Murphy Stadium. On Jan. 22nd, the San Diego City Clerk said the referendum signatures were valid and the City Council will act quickly to set an election, perhaps in May. On Jan. 29th, San Diego Judge Anthony Joseph will rule on whether the referendum applies to the entire $78 million in revenue bonds, or just the $18 million which the council recently added to the original $60 million. More on San Diego next week...

...FYI: **Calpeek** sources in Sacto say the State Assembly will establish a *select committee* on sports franchises & municipal funding of facilities, with Don Perata(D-Alameda) as chair. Stay tuned...

SPRING '97 ELECTIONS: CITY & COUNTY CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here is Part II of **Calpeek's** continuing series on city & county Spring Elections. This week a look at some city races...

...The first major city to hold a spring election is Burbank on Feb. 25th, followed by about **49** cities on Mar. 4th (including Beverly Hills, Carson, Pasadena & West Hollywood). On April 1st, Glendale and Inglewood hold elections, followed by L.A. on April 8th. And just about all the candidates running in the spring elections will follow the new rules of Prop. 208 --- unless voters in individual cities approved earlier campaign reform measures...

☒ ***Burbank*** - This city of 94,000 - and home to many of the major motion picture studios - is in good financial shape. Popular Mayor Bill Wiggins is seeking reelection and sources say he should win another term. Ditto incumbent Councilman Dave Golonski. Not seeking reelection is Councilwoman Susan Spanos. There's a large group of contenders for the Spanos post, but the candidate with the best name ID is Stacy Murphy, wife of ex-councilman Tim Murphy...

☒ ***Inglewood*** - In this city of 107,000 people --- and current home of *Lakers & Kings*, plus Hollywood Park and a fairly new card club --- voters have to select a new mayor (to replace new Assemblyman Ed Vincent), vote on 2 council posts, and decide whether to raise 3 taxes (hotel tax, parking lot tax and sports ticket tax)to raise $1.5 million per year to help pay for a new sports arena in Inglewood. As **Calpeek** has noted, Inglewood is in a bidding war with L.A. for the *Lakers* and *Kings*. For mayor, there are five(5) candidates, but only two are in the top tier: L.A. Sup. Court Judge Roosevelt Dorn and Inglewood Councilman Currin D. Price. Campaign mgt notes: Dorn has hired Rick Taylor & Assoc. and Price has hired The Kamber Group...

☒ ***West Hollywood*** - There are two(2) seats up for grabs, but you have to figure that Mayor Paul Koretz is a favorite for reelection, so what we're talking about is the OPEN seat being vacated by popular Councilwoman Abbe Land. *Rent Control* is no longer the powerful issue it once was, but the Coalition for Economic Survival(CES) is still very active. The 3 best known contenders with resources and support are attorney John Duran; Jeff Prang, an aide to L.A. Coun-

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cilwoman Ruth Galanter; and former city commissioner Sibyl Zaden. Campaign mgt notes: Parke Skelton is doing Duran; Susan Burnside is doing Prang; and Dennis Orfirer is doing Koretz...

☒ ***Glendale*** - Councilmembers Mary Ann Plumley, Rick Reyes and Sheldon Baker are all seeking reelection --- and they face 9 challengers, including former Councilwoman Ginger Bremberg. Also running is David Wallace, who ran in the 43rd AD GOP primary last year --- and threw numerous *verbal bombs* at Sheldon Baker, who also ran in the 43rd. This could be very interesting contest. More next week...

CAMPAIGN '98: WHO WILL BECOME CALIF.'S AG?

Editor's note: Although no one knows for sure what's going to happen with Calif.'s *term limit law* (Prop. 140), there's absolutely no doubt Calif. Attorney General Dan Lungren(R) is giving up his post to run for governor, leaving the job OPEN. Here's is our brief update & analysis...

...**Calpeek** sources have IDed five individuals who are seriously testing the waters for the AG's job. They include: Chief Deputy AG Dave Stirling(R), Orange Co. DA Michael Capizzi(R), Senate PPT Bill Lockyer(D-Hayward), State Sen. Charles Calderon(D-Montebello) and former Congresswoman Lynn Schenk(D-San Diego). Also said to be looking is State Sen. Quentin Kopp(I-S.F.) and perhaps Assemblymembers Jan Goldsmith(R-Poway) and Chuck Poochigian(R-Fresno). Former Assemblyman Tom Umberg(D) also has been mentioned...

...On the GOP side, Stirling has been actively campaign for 9-10 months and has hired Sacto-based Russo, Marsh + Raper as his campaign consultant. He's also lined up endorsements from 4 past CRP chairs: Frank Visco, Bob Naylor, Tirso del Junco and Mike Antonovich. He recently won an important endorsement from State Sen. Ken Maddy(R-Fresno). But Stirling's ***best asset*** is his ballot title: Chief Deputy Attorney General. But O.C. DA Mike Capizzi isn't playing dead. He's been busy lining up endorsements. He claims 44 of the 58 DAs are supporting him, plus 18 county sheriffs and 12 police chiefs. Capizzi has yet to hire a consultant, but he's looking. His 2 biggest problems: **1)** raising enough money to overcome Stirling's ballot title; and **2)** the continued bad blood with *O.C.'s GOP Political Junta*...

...On the Demo side, Schenk is the only one testing the waters who has hired a consultant: Bill Wachob of the Campaign Group, who has assisted Schenk in her previous campaigns. She's a good fundraiser; is a former Deputy AG; is pro-death penalty; and at this point is the only women in the race. Her problem: lack of statewide name ID. Schenk's big competition will come from Lockyer, the powerful State Senate President Pro Tem. He's got a solid Bay area/liberal base, is an excellent fundraiser (and may already have a huge warchest), and enjoys a certain measure of statewide name ID. He also has a long string of political IOUs. As for Calderon, he's a moderate; he's the Senate Majority Leader; probably can draw well from his Hispanic base; and may appeal to male voters because of his stand in favor of men having *equal custody rights of children in divorce cases*...

...FYI: Campaign reporting statements should be available just after Jan. 31st. These statements will show fundraising activity in 1996. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK's LEGAL FILE: 208 AND OPEN PRIMARY.

Editor's not: Here's a brief update on some pending legal cases...

♦ ***208 Revisited*** - Our sources were just a little early in predicting that the CDP and CRP would file their lawsuits against Prop. 208 (campaign reform) on or about Jan. 17th. It's going to happen, but not for another 10-20 days. Joseph Remcho is handling the legal action for the CDP, while John Mueller is in charge of the lawsuit for the CRP. FYI: **Calpeek** sources confirm that two of the State's major slate operators, GOP consultant Allan Hoffenblum and Demo consultant Larry Levine, are soliciting funds from other slate operators to file suit against those provisions in 208 aimed at slates. The slate operators hope to hire attorneys Jonathan Steinberg of Irell & Manella and Dan Lowenstein (1st chair of the FPPC) to handle their legal action...

♦ ***Open Primary Law Challenged*** - For the record, the Calif. Democratic Party filed a lawsuit last November in federal court to overturn Prop. 198, the State's

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new Open Primary Law. Sacto-based Olsen, Hagel, Fong et al is handling the case for the CDP...

♦ ***Bono Reintroduces H.R. 1170*** - U.S. Rep. Sony Bono(R-Palm Springs) has reintroduced a bill to ban a single federal judge from blocking an initiative approved by voters. Bono calls H.R. 1170 the *State Initiative Fairness Act*. Under this bill, which goes to the House Judiciary Cmt. for a first hearing, the federal courts would set up a 3-judge panel to review challenges of initiatives --- as opposed to the current system which allows opponents to shop for a single, friendly federal judge - who can issue a TRO and prevent the initiative from being implemented. Bono originally introduced H.R. 1170 because of what happened with Prop. 187 in 1995. But remember what happened in 1996: same thing with Prop. 209. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.
Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ ***Full Metal Jacket*** - U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer(D-CA) will introduce legislation to impose the same safety and quality standards on U.S.-made *Saturday Night Special* cheap handguns as those required on imported guns. There are 6 Calif. companies which produce about 80% of the SNSs. Boxer's bill is called the American Handgun Standards Act. Co-authors are Senators John Chafee(R-RI), Harry Reid(D-NV) and Richard Durbin(D-IL). There is more info about this bill on her *web page*: http://www.senate.gov/~boxer/...

■ ***The RNC's New Chair*** - James Nicholson of Colorado replaces Haley Barbour as the RNC Chair. It took 6 ballots before the 58-year-old home builder was elected. CA GOP chair John Herrington bowed out of the race early and threw his support to Nicholson. FYI: last week, Pres. Bill Clinton named Colorado Gov. Roy Romer to head the DNC, so both major party chairs are from the *Centennial State*...

■ ***Week In Review Expands*** - Century Cable TV's popular 1-hour PA/political roundtable tv talk show has expanded into Orange County. The first show featuring moderator Bill Rosendahl and guest panelists Fred Droz and Eileen Padberg was aired this past week to Century subscribers in O.C...

RELIGION & POLITICS CONFERENCE JAN. 27 - 28.
The American Jewish Committee and the Fuller Theological Seminary will host a conference on religion & politics, Jan. 27-28 at the Seminary in Pasadena. This conference is open to the public. For exact times, costs, RVSPs ☎ Jess Vega (818)584-5203...

LUNGREN TO GIVE STATE OF PUBLIC SAFETY TALK.
Calif. Atty. Gen. Dan Lungren(R) will present the 6th annual State of Public Safety address, 12 noon, Sacramento Convention Center, Jan. 29th. Lungren's speech is hosted by The Comstock Club. For info ☎ Tracy Haven at (916)485-6492...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.
Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● The Kamber Group's L.A. office wins Award of Merit for Special Print Communications by the IABC/L.A. chapter, for work on behalf of the Air Transport Assn...

● Richard S. Woodward of Burlingame-based Woodward & McDowell, is the new president of the American Assn. of Political Consultants, while Donna Lucas, head of Nelson Communications Group, is the AAPC's new Secretary-Treasurer...

● Political consultant Rick Taylor has moved from downtown L.A. to the Westside. New address: 2999 Overland Ave., Ste. 207-B, L.A. 90064. ☎(310)815-8683...

● PA exec Joseph R. Cerrell has been appointed to the CA Italian-American Task Force by Gov. Wilson...

● Campaign treasurer/political reporting consultant David Gould moves to 555 S. Flower St., Ste. 4510, L.A. 90071. ☎(213)489-4792...

● Former Bakersfield Assemblyman Trice Harvey(R) has been appointed to the Agricultural Labor Relations Board(ALRB) by Gov. Wilson...

● Ezunial "Eze" Burts has resigned his job as exec. director of the L.A. Harbor Dept. to become president of the L.A. Chamber of Commerce...

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